

PTA Meeting – October 7, 2008

1. President's Report – Quiet month, but gearing up for many activities in the next month.

SCHOOL STORE: Bridget Willson comments on school store: Many parents still unsure what 'pawsitive points' allow: students can trade these coupons in for materials/ goods in store that have been donated by PTA members. Bridget has been staffing the store quite a bit, but wishes to see more parent time committed to staffing the store. She would like to create a schedule for the Fall and needs volunteers for a 9 am half-hour time slot. Sign-up list distributed.

--CFC# 41895 can be used to take money from paycheck for donation to GES.

--Encourage all to submit money for Scholastic News.

2. Treasurer's Report – accounts reflect post-Labor Day festival proceeds. Almost \$7K from book sale grossed. \$1200 recovered from Scholastic News. Still trying to sort out money coming from dues and donations, which have been mixed along the way. Current balance: \$11,767.00
All Treasurer Reports are posted on website.

3. Funding Requests:

- a. Picnic tables for the courtyard, to be made by parent volunteers -- \$253 each, including transportation.

Found table that will not splinter like wood, but is more expensive. Motion from board is to purchase 2 tables @ \$530 now, then more later. James Butler suggests asking local Boy Scout troop donating/ making tables at no charge, which he says is a common project for this organization. Kristen suggests voting now, to avoid additional wait. Motion passes.

- b. Recess equipment and storage container -- \$450

Recess monitors approached PTA with problem of having to move containers each day from gym to playground, and a locked storage container would help alleviate this extra work. Sports equipment also suggested by monitors. This Motion by the board is voted on and passes. The playground needs equipment, as well as indoor play recess equipment. If any parents have items or money to donate, let Anne know.

- c. 2nd / 4th grade aquarium trip -- \$540

This price request reflects an increase over last year. Motion by the board for \$400 is voted on and passes.

4. Upcoming events/ programs:

- a. Walk to School Day – Oct. 8; National initiative to promote and advocate community walking. 4 groups leaving 8-8:30. Need 1-2 volunteers stationed outside school to hand out promotional items. Before-Care is walking down to Plateau place and back.
- b. Chuck-E-Cheese – Oct. 8, after school until 9 p.m.

All invited to the Laurel location. Children will bring home a sticker good for free tokens. A portion of money spent will benefit GES PTA.

- c. Spaghetti dinner-fundraiser / ad hoc PTA meeting – Wednesday, Nov. 5, 6 – 7:30 p.m.
Chorus dinner last year was a great success. Anne needs help to organize it: groceries, cooking, staffing that night. Setup will begin 2 hours prior. Food will be cooked on site. We no longer have an organizational Costco card. Beth suggests coop for donating food. Time For Kids jar can be placed that night for donations.

Student directory needs all to submit information. Do not re-submit your information, as this may duplicate your information. Business or individuals that wish to donate or buy an ad are needed.

5. Arts programming at GES

- a. 15-minute movie on Arts Integration Schools
- b. Reflections Program, “WOW” Elizabeth Morisette last year visited classrooms and worked with art in classes. This year, planning will ensure all arts mediums are supported and encouraged. Our art teacher works with three schools—and runs an after-school art club here at GES—but this is a good supplement for our students.
 - i. Art in the classroom -- If any member has time or talent to work with children in the classroom, let Lucy Dirksen know.
 - ii. Art Night – Oct 16
 - To get students started, this evening initiative invites children
 - iii. Art Show – Dec 4 – Local Deadline, Nov 12th
GES, then State and National level PTA competition for submitting entries. Judging occurs after the show and is not intended to divert the local intention to get all kids involved in creating art. While writing is also included in this competition, ACE also has a program for those submitting writing samples—deadline March, '09
- c. Assemblies
Reverb, black history acapella music group
- d. Kindergarten Painting and clay
Barbara Simon wants to ensure program continuation after her retirement. She is training young people to work with GES students.

General discussion:

Progress Reports for 1st grade: Comments section consists of available pre-programmed comments chosen by teacher. Younger grades do not receive letter grades. “P” means progress report, and is not

a grade. "PR" most likely describes progress of child. Currently, we are unsure of the meaning or grade matrix that would help discern meaning of these codes.

Dave Lang, Coordinator, Still looking for tutors who have received security clearance to place with students.

Make sure you receive your Pawsitive Points Coupons!

Sign-up sheets:

Spaghetti dinner

Arts in the Classroom

Upcoming Events

Dec. 1-5, Scholastic Book Sale

Dec. 4 – Grandparents Day

Jan 14 – Math/ Science Night

Feb 10 – TAG meeting/ Reading Night

March 28 – Spring Fair

May 4-8 – Teacher Appreciation Week

May 13 – Multicultural Dinner

Fundraising